

## Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 ORM-02 SCA-01

AID-05 DPW-01 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

SS-15 /083 W

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R 310915Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3452

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 11985

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CASC, VS, CB, PK

SUBJECT: PAK REPATRIATES FROM INDO-CHINA

REF: STATE 302899

1. ACCORDING TO MFA, TWO PLANELOADS OF PAKISTANI REPATRIATES HAVE ARRIVED IN KARACHI FROM VIET NAM UNDER ICRC AUSPICES WITH A THIRD FLIGHT EXPECTED JANUARY 1. DIRECTOR GENERAL (EAST ASIA) SHAHARYAR KHAN HAS CONFIRMED EARLIER PRESS REPORTS THAT TOTAL OF 500 ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE, THUS "CLEARING DECKS" AS FAR AS GOP IS CONCERNED. GOP CONSIDERS THAT THOSE "PAKISTANIS" WHO WILL REMAIN IN VIET NAM AFTER JANUARY 1 ARE ALMOST ALL INTEGRATED INTO VIET NAM SOCIETY, AND IS THEREFORE NO LONGER CONCERNED ABOUT REPATRIATION ISSUE.

2. REPATRIATES, WHO INCLUDE WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WERE FACING UNEMPLOYMENT IN VIET NAM, ACCORDING TO  
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PAKISTAN TIMES DECEMBER 29. (SHAHAYYAR SAYS THAT THEY

WERE MOSTLY EMPLOYED AS WATCHMEN.) PRESS SAYS REPATRIATES ARE FROM THE LYALLPUR, CAMPBELLPUR AND PESHAWAR AREAS, AND THAT SOME HAD BEEN IN VIET NAM FOR OVER 50 YEARS. ONE INDIVIDUAL, A FORMER BANK CLERK IN SAIGON, REPORTEDLY TOLD PRESS THAT THE GROUP IS RETURNING HOME ON THEIR OWN WILL AS VIET NAM DOES NOT HAVE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGNERS, BUT THAT "GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE WITH US".

3. ACCORDING TO SHAHARYAR, ICRC HAS NOT ASKED PAKS TO REIMBURSE THEM FOR COST OF THE FLIGHTS, NOR DO PAKS EXPECT TO BE ASKED.

4. OTHER RECENT PAK REPATRIATES FROM INDO-CHINA INCLUDE THOSE FROM CAMBODIA. ACCORDING TO SHAHARYAR ABOUT 300 HAVE EXITED IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, MOST OF WHOM HAD WORKED AS TRADERS THERE. OF THESE, ABOUT 5 TO 10 PER CENT SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO CAMBODIA. THE GOP DOES NOT CONSIDER THE FEW WHO MAY HAVE BEEN LEFT BEHIND IN CAMBODIA TO CONSTITUTE A PROBLEM FOR THE GOP TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT.

5. ICRC CHIEF PAUL EYNARD IS CURRENTLY IN KARACHI, WHERE HE IS RECEIVING THE REPATRIATES. WE WILL TRY TO MEET WITH HIM AFTER HIS RETURN HERE AND WILL REPORT FURTHER ON ANY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.  
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## Message Attributes

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